

Coat of Arms von Schweinitz Family Compendium



By

Helga von Schweinitz

Coat of Arms von Schweinitz 220120 compendium

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by
Helga von Schweinitz

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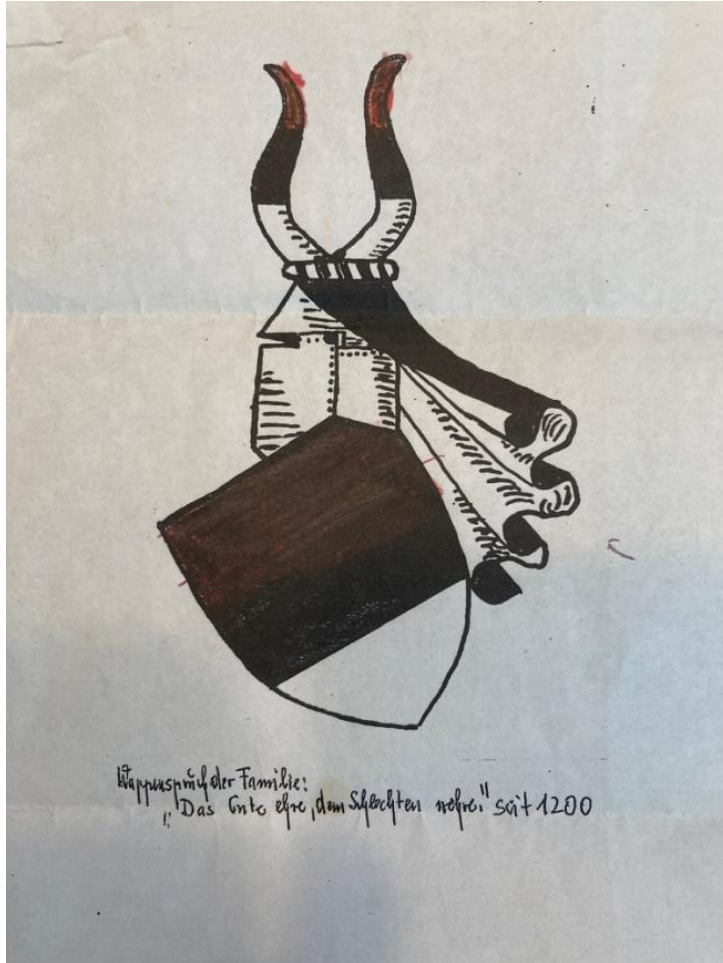
Introduction

This little booklet is just a collections of information about the Coat of Arms of Alt Raudten branch of the von Schweinitz family.

The Coat of Arms changed over time. The first version found was from about 1200. Over time the Coat of Arms became more elaborate. By 1841 there was a version that included two unicorns, a Badger, and a pig.

The Coat of Arms is used primarily in three different ways, as a Crest on the shield for battle, on the Signature Ring, to identify the family on letterheads, and when on ornamental display such as family boxes at Church.

Alt Raudten von Schweinitz family Coat of Arms from 1200s



The version from around 1200 was not very ornate. But it has the basic foundation for all the future more ornate Coat of Arms. The saying below the shield 'das gute ehre dem schlechten wehre' means 'honor the good against the bad'.

Hans and Helga had Kevin W. Me?? provide an explanation of this crest. His interpretation is:

The Simplicity of design indicates that this is a very old armorial bearing. Perhaps dating from the Very late twelfth century, but certainly, from the early thirteenth century.

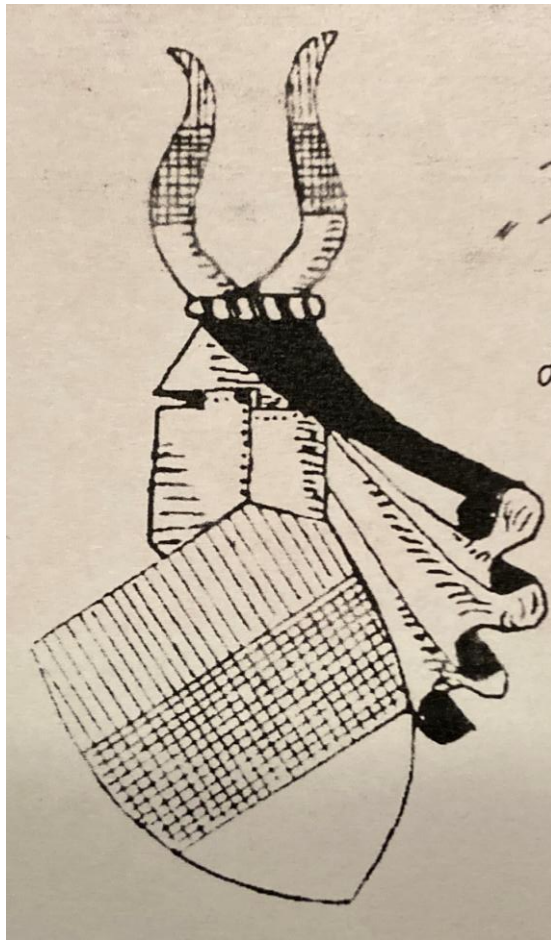
The helmet is a thirteenth century pot helm and the Shield is the "heater" shape that was popular during that time.

The mantle is the most stylized element of the typical coat of arms. The mantle, or lambrequin, was actually worn for the purpose of providing shade from the sun and for affording some protection from sword cuts. In battle, the lambrequin was often cut to ribbons by foemen's swords. (The more ragged the mantle, the more mighty the warrior?)

As a result, medieval, heraldic artists used the shredded lambrequins as a way to render curlicues and flourishes for the purpose of dressing up the coat of arms.

When rendered on paper or cloth, white and yellow were used to represent silver and gold, respectively.

Kevin M???



Heraldry

Over the years, Hans and Helga found an explanations of the different elements of the Coat of Arms.

Based on the "Heraldry: Crowns and Coronets" chart the Coat of Arms contains, 3: Mantle, 7: Pot Helmet, 24,25,26,27: Shield colors, and 34: buffalo horns.

Based on the "Heraldic Alphabet Hatching" the Coat of Arms' color is Top parallel lines iii for Gules (RED), Middle hatch marks lines vfor Sable (BLACK), and Bottom is blank ii for Argent (Silver).

The von Schweinitz are "Freiherr" or in English "Barons" so based on the Germany Crowns and Cornets, the Coat of Arms uses the older form of a cornet for Barons #511.

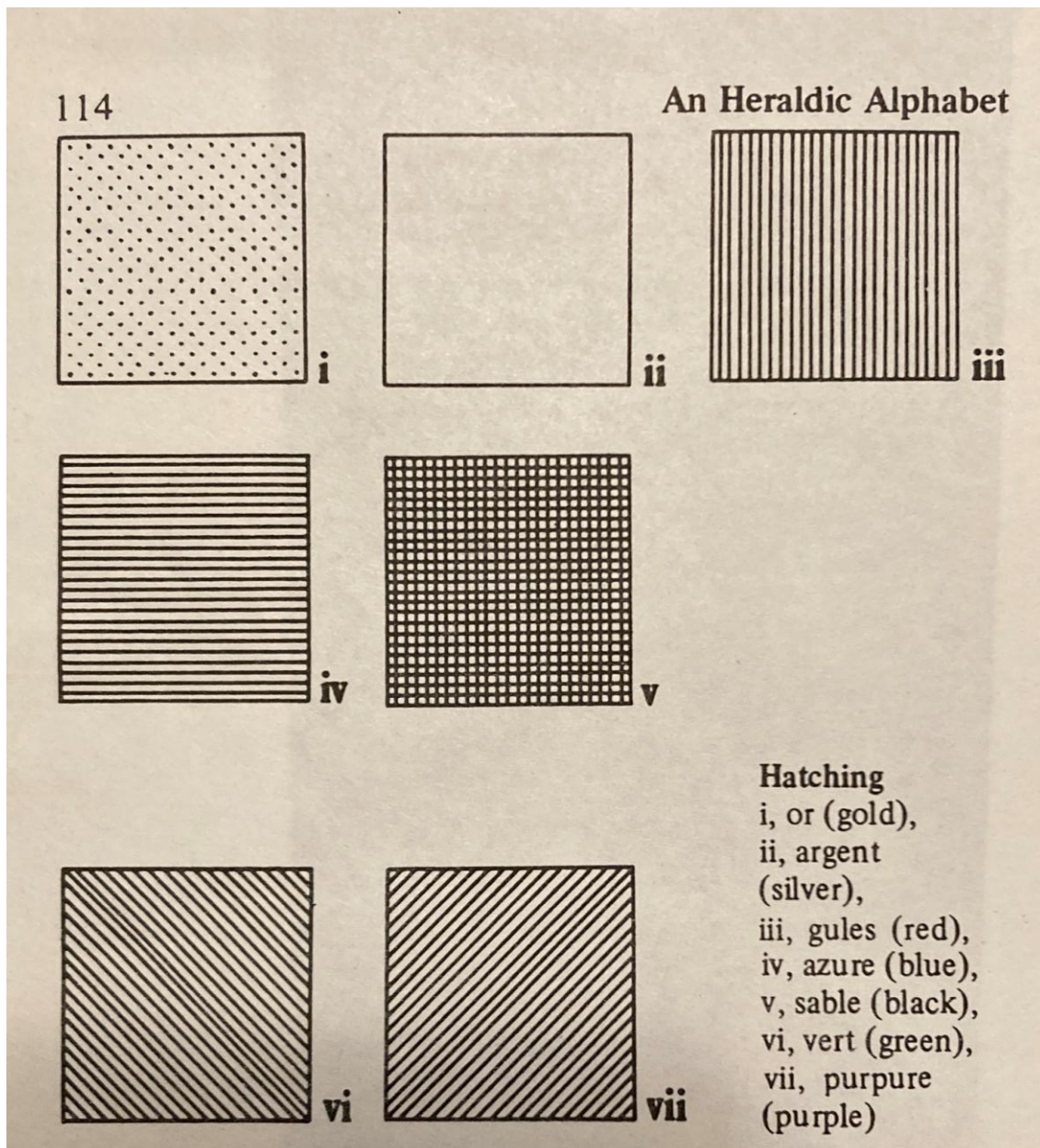
The "Helmets used in Heraldry" chart in the lower left corner shows three versions of the 'Pot Helmet' used by German Coat of Arms. The Pot Helmet can either look to the front or the side, depending individual taste.

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These same charts can be used to explain the elements of the extreme ornamental version of the Crest and Ring that is written about later

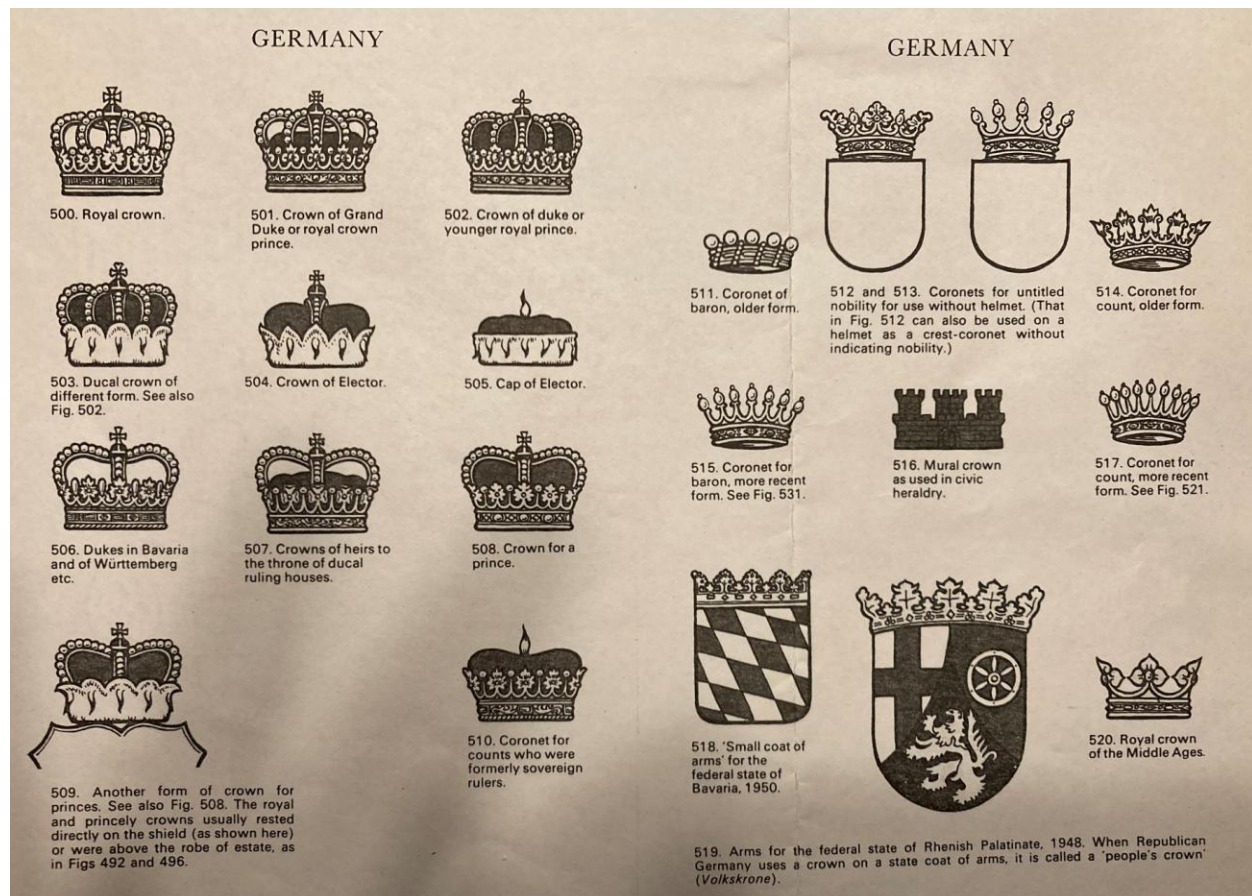


Heraldry: Crowns and Coronets

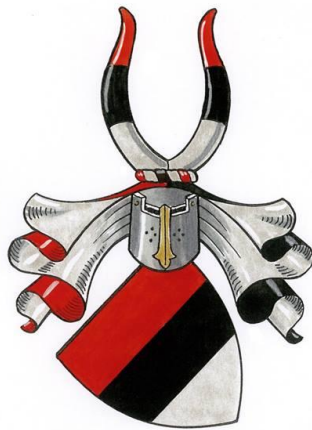


Heraldic Alphabet Hatching

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Germany Crowns and Coronets



Stammwappen

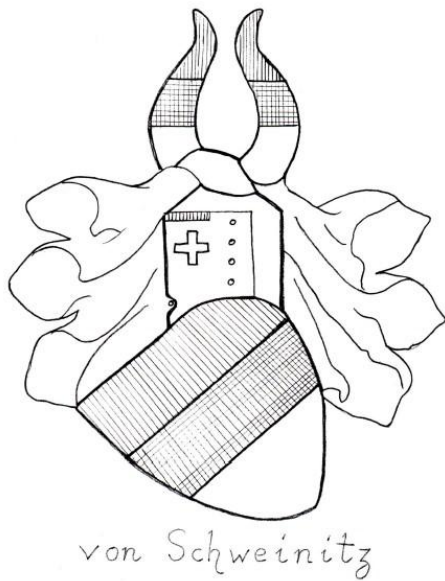
(gültig für alle Schweinitz-Linien seit Anbeginn)

This version is newer but still simplified. It is currently used by some family member. It still has the all the basic elements of a von Schweinitz Coat of Arms.



Helmets used in Heraldry

Alt Raudten von Schweinitz family Crest as Signature Ring



After a lot of research and discussion with other family members, Hans and Helga choose which version of the Coat of Arms to use as Crest on the Signature Rings. Helga wrote a letter to their Daughter explaining the history of the ring design and what each part represents.

It is based on a photograph of the crest on the inside lid of a golden watch found by Hans and Helga. We used that for Papa's ring as well, and I've seen it engraved on tombstones (in photos). Mischi left off the coat (mantle) but I've never seen it without the coat except on Mischi's ring.



Everything has a meaning. The main thing is the tilted shield with the three colors red, black, and silver. Its etching red in |||, black is ###, and silver is left blank. These colors are repeated in the buffalo horns.



The horns are also necessary. Then the helmet between the shield and the horns: the shape of the helmet should not be changed much because it indicates that age of the family's nobility. The Schweinitz family belongs to the really old families, the "Uradel" dating back to the 13th century. In Scottish and Dutch Heraldry, things are different, only the color indicators like ||| for red are the same.

It is not important to have exactly the same number of lines on the color field that I put on. Actually all those fold of the cloth (the mantle) are also in color, maybe red on the outside and black and/or silver on the inside, but that's too difficult and would be too confusing to the eye.

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The shields were in different color combinations so that an opponent would know whom he was fighting against, because the knights were all in shining armor. Often a brother would change his shield a little to avoid being confused with his older brother. Maybe there was a deal made to kill one but not the other. The codes of arms were also subject to fashions during the centuries, and sometimes

things like crosses and crowns were added for particular honors received. That's why several branches of the same family can have similar but different crests.

Letterhead version of Coat of Arms



This version of the Coat of Arms is more ornate. It is used by many family members on their letterheads and websites. It is based on the 1200 version but the elements are more artistic and stylized. And color has been added.

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This is the version that Hans and Helga von Schweinitz used on their letterhead.

Example of letterhead

Hans L. & Helga H. von Schweinitz
19117 GANTON COURD
PFLUGERVILLE, TX 78660
Home Phone (512)990-3557 FAX (512)989-8825
E-MAIL hans2lu@aol.com and helgavs@aol.com



Hans L. von Schweinitz

Helga von Schweinitz

Ornamental Coat of Arms for elaborate display

Hans and Helga found a poster that is a chart of the 112 Silesian Nobles as of 14



September 1841. The complete poster is in the last section of this booklet. The Schweinitz Coat of Arms is located on chart, third to the right of the eagle. The caption on the bottom of the chart is "Abbildung des, ihrer Majestaet der Koenigin Elisabeth von Preussen, von 112 Schlesischien edelfrauen am 14 September 1841 zu Breslau, allerunterthaenigst ueberreichten wappenteppichs." Illustration of the her Majesty the Queen Elisabeth of Prussia, of 112 Silesian nobles on September 14th, 1841 in Breslau, as depicted on Coat of Arms."

The banner under the Schweinitz Coat of Arms states "Er ist unsere hülfe und Schild" which means "He is our help and shield". It is from the bible Psalm 33:20-22

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The chart of elements for the coat of Arms described before can be used to describe this elaborate version.

The Helmet is has changed to one with bars instead of a slit.

The Crown is still a coronet for Baron, by more ornate

The Shield in the middle represents the basic Schweinitz battle shield, but the halves of the larger shield probably represent the merger of two families. The Badger on the bottom left represents the Schweinitz family.

On the top left a pig has been added above the coronet (which is the Schweinitz side)

On the top right a star has been added above the coronet (which is probably the side of the other family)

The banner under the shield states "Er ist unsere hülfe und Schild" which means "He is our help and shield". It is from the bible Psalm 33:20-22

Below is another version of this same Coat of Arms which could be combining two families.



Coat of Arms in art work

Over the years both Helga and Bettina depicted the Coat of Arms in their art work. Helga used it in a decoupage on wood. Bettina converted the crest into a cross-stitch pattern.



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Support documents, copy of originals
Letter from Kevin M??

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As a result, medieval, heraldic artists used the shredded lambrequins as a way to render curlicues and flourishes for the purpose of dressing up the coat of arms.

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Kevin W. Martin

Letter from Helga to Bettina about ring

Feb 29-88

Dear Tine,

I hope the matter of your second line payments gets solved without further problems. The great thing about a ten on real estate is the fact that the property itself is the collateral and security, not the payer, who may die. Whoever is the new owner of the ~~first~~^{house} is obligated to make all the payments on it.

And here is the family crest. It is based on a photograph of the crest on the inside lid of a golden casket. We said that for Papa's ring as well, and I've seen it engraved on tombstones (in photos). Inside left off the coat (mantle) but I've never seen it without the crest except on Thimble's ring.

Everything has a meaning. The main thing is the tilted shield with the three colors red, black and silver. The striking red is IIII, black is IIIII, and silver is left blank. These colors are repeated on the buffalo horns.

a deal made to kill one but not the other. The code of arms was also subject to fashion during the centuries, and sometimes things like crowns and crests were added for particular honors received. That's why several branches of the same family can have similar but different crests. I hope all of this helped a little.

I made a master drawing of the crest and sent to Jimmy's and reduced it to various sizes. Really fun to do. I colored one for you, maybe you want to sleep it in a frame.

Please send in your ring size. Some catalogs have an inset to measure it with, or ask a jeweller to do that for you.

If you ever want a copy of the family tree to hang up or to have in your files somewhere, let us know. Papa wants to put us on our copy in better writing. He and you are on there, but the penmanship is poor. In a way it's real pity that everything the family

The horns are also necessary. Then the helmet between the shield and the horns:

The shape of the helmet should not be changed much because it indicates the age of a family's nobility. The Schweinitz family belongs to the really old families, the "Uradel" dating back to the 13th century. In Scottish and Dutch heraldry things are different, only the color indicators like IIIII for red are the same.

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The shields were in different color combinations so that an opponent would know whom he was fighting against, because the knights were all in shining armor. When a brother would change his shield a little to avoid being confused with his older brother, maybe there was

orned, all the art treasures, the ancient furniture, the special china and silver, everything was plundered and carried off, probably by Russian officers. Only the land and the house (Schloß) stayed behind and the Schloß was burned down a year or two after the war.

The entire estate, the Schloß with a beautiful park, was called Alt-Raudten, just in case anybody ever asks you, that entire part of Germany (Schlesien) was given to Poland after WWII.

Your package came this morning. That was fast. I won't open it until the 9th, of course.

I hope you are happy with your new horse and stable, and I hope you can pay off your credit cards soon so that you have the credit line available for emergencies.

Love,

Muttie

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Signature Ring 25 July 1988 for Tina

QUITTUNG	KNEWITZ \$ 1.- = DM 1,70 <small>Goldschmiede in Mainz. Seit 1834.</small>	
	<i>at time of purchase</i>	
6500 MAINZ 1, Hofchen 4		25-7-88
8/06/1983 14ct Siegelring incl. from		1355,- \$797.00
Juwelier KNEWITZ GmbH Hofchen 4 Postfach 2448 Telefon 0 61 31 / 22 31 02 6500 Mainz 1		Wir danken für Ihr Vertrauen Es bediente Sie Die Preise beinhalten die gesetzliche MWSt. von % Betrag erhalten <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> bar <input type="checkbox"/> Scheck. <i>Heidi Kewitz</i>

9-18-88

Dear Tina,

Before we venture off to Mexico I want to take care of a few things. One of them is your birthday present. As you might guess we have that ring for you with the family seal (or crest). It arrived just a few days ago. I am mailing it ~~in~~ Monday in a little package, and I'll insure it for around \$400.-. I guess it'll get to your Post Office Box by Friday, and since it is insured, I think you have to sign for it. If you don't mind you may open it before your birthday, but there is nothing in it that can spoil. I am sending the receipt for the ring (Siegelring) with this letter so you have documentation in case you want to list the ring as scheduled property in your homeowner's insurance.

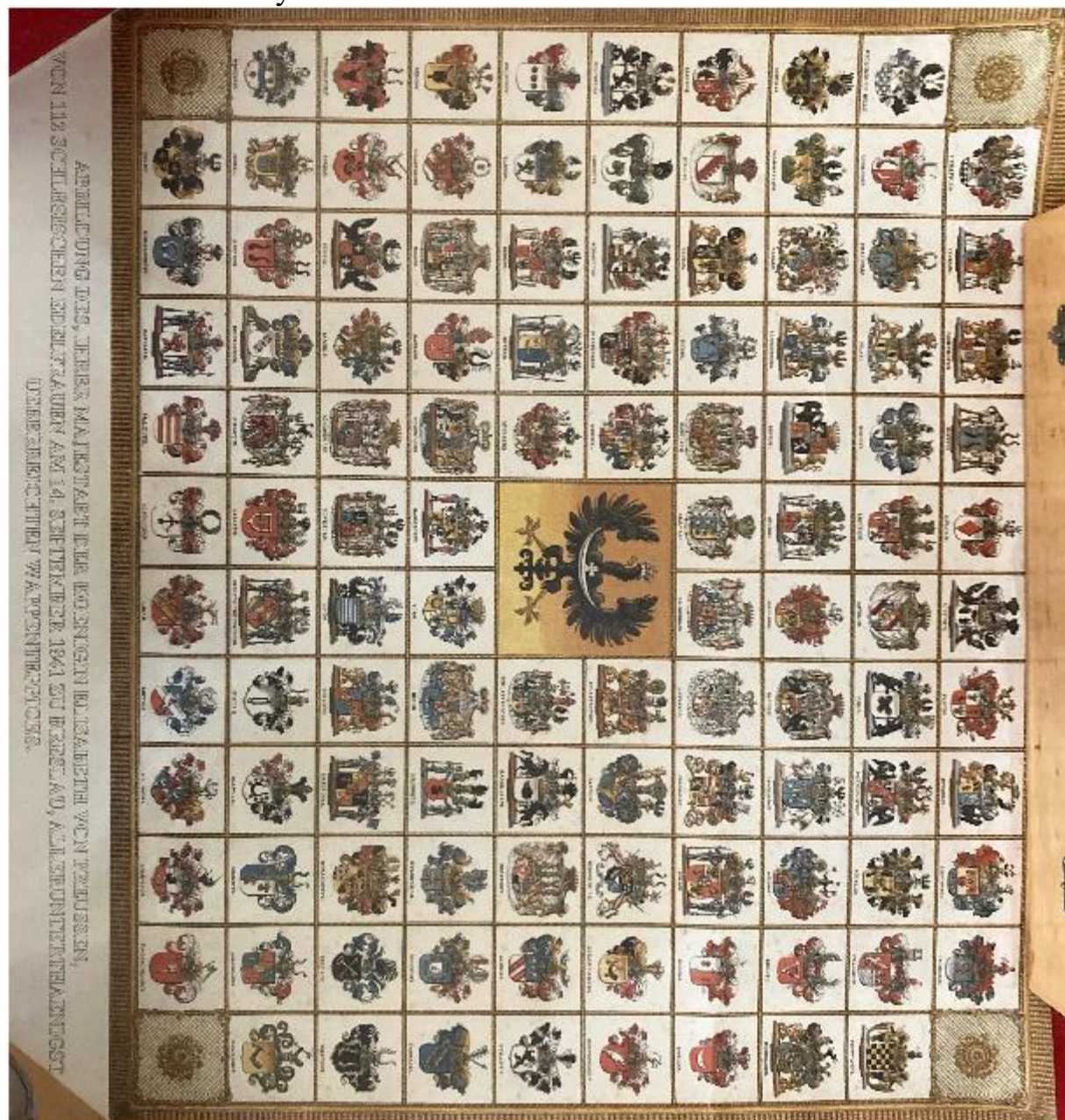
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Receipts for Signature ring 1 August 2008



Impression of 2008 signature ring

Chart of Noble family Coat of Arms in 1841



Schweinitz is 3rd right from eagle

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Coat of Arms from other branches of the Schweinitz family



*Graf von Schweinitz und Krain,
Freiherr von Hauder*

(Erhebung in den Preussischen Grafenstand für den
Freiherrn Hans Julius am 13. September 1748)



Graf von Schweinitz - Freiherr von Tschepplau

(Erhebung in den Preussischen Grafenstand für
Karl Friedrich v. Schweinitz, Breslau am 06. November 1741)

Graf von Schweinitz



Wappen des Kristian Schweinitz

(Vor dessen Nobilitierung am 22. Juni 1675)

Kristian Schweinitz



Freiherr von Schweinitz - Briesen

(Erhebung in den königlich Preussischen Freiherrnstand
für Heinrich Siegmund von Schweinitz, Wien 03. Mai 1724)

von Schweinitz - Briesen



Freiherr von Schweinitz - Kander

(Erhebung in den Preussischen Freiherrenstand
für Hans Julius von Schweinitz, Berlin 06. November 1741)

von Schweinitz Kander